

I CLAIM:

1. An order picker, comprising
a frame having a front and a rear,
a motor for providing power at said front of said frame,
an operator's platform for supporting an operator located rearwardly of said motor, said platform having a front edge, a rear edge, and a pair of side edges,
a protective guard extending upwardly from said platform rear edge.
2. The order picker of claim 1, further comprising
a pair of forks for supporting merchandise located rearwardly of said platform.
3. The order picker of claim 1, further comprising
an operator's cab comprising a vertical portion of said platform front edge and a horizontal portion extending from said vertical portion.
4. The order picker of claim 3, wherein
said protective guard is attached to said cab horizontal portion.
5. The order picker of claim 4, wherein

said protective guard comprises a pair of vertical posts and a top rail extending between said vertical posts,

at least one hook extending from said top rail for engaging said cab horizontal portion.

6. The order picker of claim 5, wherein

said hook is L-shaped.

7. The order picker of claim 5, further comprising an extension attached to each vertical post, each extension extending inwardly toward one another.

8. The order picker of claim 7, wherein

each extension is U shaped.

9. The order picker of claim 1, wherein

said protective guard comprises a pair of vertical posts.

10. The order picker of claim 1, further comprising

a top rail extending between said pair of vertical posts.

11. The order picker of claim 9, further comprising an extension attached to each vertical post, each extension extending inwardly.

12. The order picker of claim 11, wherein
each extension is U-shaped.

13. The order picker of claim 9, wherein
each vertical post has a first section and a second section, said second section extending rearwardly of said first section.

14. The order picker of claim 9 wherein
each vertical post comprises
a first vertical section extending from said operator's platform,
a second rearwardly extending section attached to said first section,
a third vertical section extending upwardly from said second section,
a fourth forwardly extending section attached to said third section,
a fifth vertical section extending upwardly from said fourth section.

15. The order picker of claim 2, further comprising
a flat for carrying merchandise engaged by said forks, said flat comprising

a bed, and

a fence extending upwardly from said bed, said fence positionable at a plurality of locations along said bed to adjust said distance between said fence and said protective guard.

16. The order picker of claim 15, wherein

said fence has a pair of legs,

said bed has a plurality of pairs of apertures, said fence retained on said bed by said pair of legs engaging a pair of apertures.

17. The order picker of claim 15, further comprising

wheels attached to the bottom of said flat, said flat being able to roll from said order picker when said forks are in the lowest position.

18. A protective guard, comprising

a pair of vertical posts, each vertical post has a first section and a second section, said second section extending rearwardly of said first section, and

a top rail extending between said pair of vertical posts.

19. The protective guard of claim 18, wherein

each vertical post comprises

a first vertical section,

a second rearwardly extending section attached to said first section,

a third vertical section extending upwardly from said second section,

a fourth forwardly extending section attached to said third section,

a fifth vertical section extending upwardly from said fourth section.

20. The protective guard of claim 18, further comprising an extension attached to each vertical post, each extension extending inwardly toward one another.

21. The protective guard of claim 20, wherein

each extension is U-shaped.

22. The protective guard of claim 18, further comprising at least one hook attached to said top rail.

23. The protective guard of claim 22, wherein said at least one hook is L shaped.

24. A method of protecting an operator of an order picker, comprising
providing an order picker having a frame having a front and a rear,
a motor for providing power at said front of said frame,
an operator's platform for supporting an operator located rearwardly of said
motor, said platform having a front edge, a rear edge, and a pair of side edges, and
attaching a protective guard extending upwardly from said platform rear
edge.

25. The method of claim 24, further comprising
an operator's cab comprising a vertical portion of said platform front edge and a
horizontal portion extending from said vertical portion, and
attaching said protective guard to said cab horizontal portion.

26. The method of claim 24, wherein
the protective guard is attached to said cab horizontal portion by at least one hook.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein said at least one hook is L-shaped.

28. The method of claim 24, further comprising
forming said protective guard with two vertical posts.

29. The method of claim 28, further comprising
forming an extension on each vertical post, said extensions extending inwardly
toward one another.

30. The method of claim 29, further comprising
forming said extensions in a U-shape.